The third part of the demand is for dieting charges of the in-patients in the various medical institutions of the State. The amount already provided in the budget for this item is quite insufficient for the current year owing to the steady increase in the number of in-patients in almost all the premier Government medicial institutions in the State. The following figures will elucidate the above statement regarding the increase of in-patient attendance.

Name of institution.	*In-patient attendance.*			
	1107	*1108*	*1109*	*1110*
1. General Hospital ...	5,456	6,109	5,714	11,888
2. Women & Children's Hospital, Trivandrum ..	6,184	6,947	7,542	9,393
3. Victoria Hospital, Quilon ...	3,186	3,644	3,607	4,791

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Has the Darbar Physician got figures for the first 8 months of 1111 ?

MR JAMES SIMPSON (*Darbar Physician*) No.

Figures for the District Hospitals of Quilon, Kottayam and Alleppey are also on the increase. The budgetted amount under this item is Rs. 85, 000. To meet the increased expenditure incidental to the rise in the number of in-patients, this amount of Rs. 15,000 is very necessary. I request the House to pass the demand.

The demand was then put to vote and carried The grant was made.

SCIENTIFIC AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move for a supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 3, 150 under "Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments". This item consists of two parts. The first is for the purchase of furniture for the office of the Government Photographer and Mechanic, Rs. 150 ; and the second is for the purchase of some pictures for the Sri Chitralayam, Rs. 3,000.

The first item is a small one intended to meet the cost of a few almirahs which were transferred to the office of the Photographer from the office of the Curator for the Publication of Oriental Manuscripts. When the publications of that office were transferred to the selling department of the Government Press, a number of almirahs became available and they were distributed to various departments according to their requirements. The Government Photographer wanted a couple of almirahs urgently and they were supplied accordingly. He had no provision in the budget for making the necessary book adjustments and hence the necessity for an additional grant. This amount, if granted, will be a debit to the office of the Photographer and a credit to the office of the Curator for the Publication of Oriental Manuscripts.

The second item of Rs. 3,000 is intended for the purchase of some rare pictures for the Sri Chitralayam. I need not tell the House anything about the Sri Chitralayam, the beautiful Picture Gallery that was

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[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

opened in Trivandrum at the beginning of this year. It already possesses a collection of some excellent pictures. It has met with the admiration of all real artists who have visited it. Men who can speak with authority say that this is one of the best picture galleries in India. We must make it the best in India by adding to it more pictures as we go on. A few are available now for purchase and they would be a real acquisition to the Sri Chitralayam. If this grant is allowed, we propose to purchase two paintings by Mr. Fyzee Rahiman of Bombay, a well-known living artist of India, who has won medals and certificates at various Art Exhibitions. These pictures would cost Rs. 2,450. We would also like to purchase a couple of Pahari paintings. These, I am told, are exquisite belonging to the 17th or the 18th century. They will also be a splendid addition to the Sri Chitralayam. There is also a proposal to purchase an illustrated Bhagavadgita. It is a very valuable manuscript richly decorated with pictures of a high order of artistic excellence.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): To which place does it belong?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is from Kashmir.

For purchasing these pictures and the Bhagavadgita, we want an additional allotment of Rs. 3,000. For the current year, there was a provision of Rs. 10,000 in the budget and an additional allotment of Rs. 3,500 was also sanctioned—making a total of Rs. 13,500. This amount has practically been spent, excepting about Rs. 1,500. Out of this, Rs. 1,000 is reserved for a portrait of His Highness the Maha Raja to be placed in the Sri Chitralayam and then there will only be a small balance of Rs. 500. To this, we want to add Rs. 3,000 for the purpose already explained.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know who has seen these rare pictures?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Superintendent of Archaeology. He went to Bombay to see them.

Some others have also seen them and certified that they will be a valuable acquisition to our picture gallery.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether he is an artist?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He understands arts and is able to distinguish between good and bad pictures.

MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): Will the member disclose the name of the other artist the member just now referred?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Everybody knows that the Picture Gallery here was organised by Dr. Cousins who, I think, is recognised as a great artist.

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The Superintendent of Archaeology, as I said, has seen these pictures.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Is he an expert in modern things as well?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): We may take him to be so.

I can assure the House that they are really good pictures of rare excellence and that they will be a useful addition to the Sri Chitralayam. This institution has already won the golden opinion of the distinguished visitors to Trivandrum and these additional pictures will only increase its reputation and popularity?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Will not these pictures be superfluous to the Sri Chitralayam.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is still room for expansion and so more pictures can be added on.

The demand was then put to the vote of the House and carried. The grant was made.

ANCHAL

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 420 for the payment of compensation for the land acquired for the Olakettiambalam Anchal Office A few cents of land were acquired by the Revenue Department. At first the compensation fixed was only Rs. 286 but when the actual award was made, the Division Peishkar reported that the amount required would be Rs. 420. The Anchal Superintendent was asked whether any diversion could be made from his departmental budget and thus avoid a supplementary demand. As he reported that this was not possible Government are obliged to come to the House with this supplementary demand. I hope the House will allow this small amount.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Is there no *paramboke* land for holding the Anchal Office?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): None except the road (*Laughter*).

The demand was then put to the vote of the House and carried.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The House will now proceed to the legislative business in the agenda.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE AGRICULTURISTS' RELIEF BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I rise to introduce a Bill to make certain provisions for relief of agricultural indebtedness. The Bill was published in the Gazette with a statement of objects and reasons, and I now beg to move that the Bill be read in the Assembly.

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